

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

Idalia Valcarcel,

Plaintiff,

v.

Ahold U.S.A., Inc.,

Defendant.

1:21-CV-07821 (JSR)

**STIPULATED**  
**PROTECTIVE ORDER**

JED S. RAKOFF, U.S.D.J.

The parties having agreed to the following terms of confidentiality, and the Court having found that good cause exists for issuance of an appropriately tailored confidentiality order governing the pre-trial phase of this action, it is therefore hereby

ORDERED that any person subject to this Order -- including without limitation the parties to this action, their representatives, agents, experts and consultants, all third parties providing discovery in this action, and all other interested persons with actual or constructive notice of this Order-- shall adhere to the following terms, upon pain of contempt:

1. Any person subject to this Order who receives from any other person any "Discovery Material" (i.e., information

of any kind provided in the course of discovery in this action) that is designated as "Confidential" pursuant to the terms of this Order shall not disclose such Confidential Discovery Material to anyone else except as expressly permitted hereunder.

2. The person producing any given Discovery Material may designate as Confidential only such portion of such material as consists of:

- (a) previously nondisclosed financial information (including without limitation profitability reports or estimates, percentage fees, design fees, royalty rates, minimum guarantee payments, sales reports, sale margins, and pricing information);
- (b) previously nondisclosed material relating to ownership or control of any non-public company;
- (c) previously nondisclosed business plans, product development information, or marketing plans;
- (d) previously nondisclosed and proprietary market and consumer research;
- (e) product formulation information (including without limitation formulas, ingredient specifications, and product specifications);
- (f) any information of a personal or intimate nature regarding any individual; or

(g) any other category of information hereinafter given confidential status by the Court.

3. Any party who serves a subpoena on a third party requesting the production of documents in this litigation must include a copy of this Protective Order with the subpoena.

4. A party to this action may designate the Confidential portion of Discovery Material produced by a third party as "Confidential" if the Discovery Material contains that party's confidential information as defined in Paragraph 2, by providing written notice to all parties within twenty-one (21) calendar days after receiving such material, and providing a copy of the material clearly labeled, stamped, or otherwise marked "Confidential" with the additional words "as designated by [Party]."

5. With respect to the Confidential portion of any Discovery Material other than deposition transcripts and exhibits, the producing person or that person's counsel may designate such portion as "Confidential" by stamping or otherwise clearly marking as "Confidential" the protected portion in a manner that will not interfere with legibility or audibility, and by also producing for future public use another copy of said Discovery Material with the confidential information redacted, unless the entire document is

confidential, in which case a redacted version need not be produced. With respect to deposition transcripts and exhibits, a producing person or that person's counsel may designate deposition testimony or portions thereof that contain Confidential information as "Confidential" by giving written notice to all counsel of record within fourteen (14) calendar days after the designating party's receipt of the transcript, in which case all counsel receiving such notice shall be responsible for marking the copies of the designated transcript or portion thereof in their possession or control as directed by the designating party. Pending expiration of the fourteen (14) calendar days, the entire deposition transcript shall be treated as Confidential.

6. If at any time prior to the trial of this action, a producing person realizes that some portion[s] of Discovery Material that that person previously produced without limitation should be designated as Confidential, he may so designate by so apprising all parties in writing, and such designated portion[s] of the Discovery Material will thereafter be treated as Confidential under the terms of this Order.

7. No person subject to this Order other than the producing person shall disclose any of the Discovery Material designated by the producing person as Confidential to any other

person whomsoever, except to:

- (a) the parties to this action;
- (b) counsel retained specifically for this action, including any paralegal, clerical and other assistant employed by such counsel and assigned to this matter;
- (c) as to any document, its author, its addressee, and any other person indicated on the face of the document as having received a copy;
- (d) any witness who counsel for a party in good faith believes may be called to testify at trial or deposition in this action, provided such person has first executed a Non-Disclosure Agreement in the form annexed as an Exhibit hereto;
- (e) any person retained by a party to serve as an expert witness or otherwise provide specialized advice to counsel in connection with this action, provided such person has first executed a Non-Disclosure Agreement in the form annexed as an Exhibit hereto;
- (f) stenographers engaged to transcribe depositions conducted in this action; and
- (g) the Court and its support personnel.

8. Prior to any disclosure of any Confidential

Discovery Material to any person referred to in subparagraphs 5(d) or 5(e) above, such person shall be provided by counsel with a copy of this Protective Order and shall sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement in the form annexed as an Exhibit hereto stating that that person has read this Order and agrees to be bound by its terms. Said counsel shall retain each signed Non-Disclosure Agreement, hold it in escrow, and produce it to opposing counsel either prior to such person being permitted to testify (at deposition or trial) or at the conclusion of the case, whichever comes first.

9. A receiving party may use Confidential Discovery Material produced in connection with this case only for the purpose of prosecuting, defending, or attempting to settle this litigation. A receiving party must not use Confidential Discovery Material produced in this case for any outside purposes, including, without limitation, any outside business or outside commercial purpose.

10. All Confidential Discovery Material filed with the Court, and all portions of pleadings, motions or other papers filed with the Court that disclose such Confidential Discovery Material, shall be filed under seal with the Clerk of the Court and kept under seal until further order of the Court. The parties need not request the Court's prior permission to file Confidential Discovery Material under seal. The parties will

use their best efforts to minimize such sealing. In any event, any party filing a motion or any other papers with the Court under seal shall also publicly file a redacted copy of the same, via the Court's Electronic Case Filing system, that redacts only the Confidential Discovery Material itself, and not text that in no material way reveals the Confidential Discovery Material. A party filing documents under seal should arrange for unredacted courtesy hard copies to be delivered to Chambers by the next business day following the filing.

11. Any party who either objects to any designation of confidentiality, or who, by contrast, requests still further limits on disclosure (such as "attorneys' eyes only" in extraordinary circumstances), may at any time prior to the trial of this action serve upon counsel for the designating person a written notice stating with particularity the grounds of the objection or request. If agreement cannot be reached promptly, counsel for all affected persons will convene a joint telephone call with the Court to obtain a ruling.

12. All persons are hereby placed on notice that the Court is unlikely to seal or otherwise afford confidential treatment to any Discovery Material introduced in evidence at trial, even if such material has previously been sealed or designated as Confidential. The Court also retains unfettered discretion whether or not to afford confidential treatment to

any Confidential Document or information contained in any Confidential Document submitted to the Court in connection with any motion, application, or proceeding that may result in an order and/or decision by the Court.

13. Each person who has access to Discovery Material that has been designated as Confidential shall take all due precautions to prevent the unauthorized or inadvertent disclosure of such material.

14. If, in connection with this litigation, a party inadvertently discloses information subject to a claim of attorney-client privilege or attorney work product protection ("Inadvertently Disclosed Information"), such disclosure shall not constitute or be deemed a waiver or forfeiture of any claim of privilege or work product protection with respect to the Inadvertently Disclosed Information and its subject matter. This paragraph shall be interpreted to provide the greatest protection allowed by Federal Rule of Evidence 502, or otherwise permitted by law.

15. If a disclosing party makes a claim of inadvertent disclosure, the receiving party shall not thereafter review the Inadvertently Disclosed Information for any purpose, except by order of the Court. The receiving party shall, within five business days, return or destroy all copies of the Inadvertently Disclosed Information, and provide a



certification of counsel that all such information has been returned or destroyed.

16. Within five business days of the notification that such Inadvertently Disclosed Information has been returned or destroyed, the disclosing party shall produce a privilege log with respect to the Inadvertently Disclosed Information.

17. As with any information redacted or withheld, the receiving party may move the Court for an Order compelling production of the Inadvertently Disclosed Information. The motion shall be filed under seal, and shall not assert as a ground for entering such an Order the fact or circumstances of the inadvertent production.

18. The disclosing party retains the burden of establishing the privileged or protected nature of any Inadvertently Disclosed Information. Nothing in this Order shall limit the right of any party to request an in camera review of the Inadvertently Disclosed Information.

19. If any person subject to this Protective Order who has custody of Confidential Discovery Material receives a subpoena or other process ("Subpoena") from any government or other person or entity demanding production of such material, the recipient of the Subpoena shall promptly give notice of the same by electronic mail transmission and shall furnish such counsel with a copy of the Subpoena. Upon receipt of this

notice, the designating party may, in its sole discretion and at its own cost, move to quash or limit the Subpoena, otherwise oppose production of the Confidential Discovery Material, and/or seek to obtain confidential treatment of such materials from the subpoenaing person or entity to the fullest extent available under law.

20. This Protective Order shall survive the termination of the litigation. Within 30 days of the final disposition of this action, all Discovery Material designated as "Confidential," and all copies thereof, shall be promptly returned to the producing person or destroyed.

21. This Court shall retain jurisdiction over all persons subject to this Order to the extent necessary to enforce any obligations arising hereunder or to impose sanctions for any contempt thereof.

**SO STIPULATED AND AGREED.**

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Dated: \_\_\_\_\_


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*Ahold U.S.A., Inc.*

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

SO ORDERED.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JED S. RAKOFF, U.S.D.J.

Dated: New York, New York

12-17-21

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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**NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, acknowledge that I have read and understand the Protective Order in this action governing the non-disclosure of those portions of Discovery Material that have been designated as Confidential. I agree that I will not disclose such Confidential Discovery Material to anyone except as authorized by this Protective Order and for purposes of this litigation, and that at the conclusion of the litigation I will return all discovery information to the party or attorney from whom I received it. By acknowledging these obligations under the Protective Order, I understand that I am submitting myself to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York for the purpose of any issue or dispute arising hereunder and that my willful violation of any term of the Protective Order could subject me to punishment for contempt of Court.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_